



PREVENTION

Highlights



In This Issue

Campus Fire Safety
Inspection Schedules
Tornado Drills
Active Shooter
Variance
Smoking vs. Non-
Smoking Facilities
Most Cited Violations
Welcome New
Inspectors

PREVENTION

Highlights

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 3
Edu-Note by Joel
Tornado Drills

Page 4
Campus Safety
Welcome to Matt Dekat

Page 5
Adjusting Inspection Schedules
What to Expect When You're Inspected

Page 6
Spot the Violations

Pages 7-9
Active Shooter/Intruder Variance

Page 10
Smoking vs. Non-Smoking Facilities

Pages 11-12
Most Cited Healthcare Violations

Page 12
Welcome to Matt and Katie Kangas



Our Mission

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is dedicated to protecting lives and property from the hazards of fire or explosion and will promote prevention, educational and investigative activities to mitigate incidents, promote life safety and deter crimes.

The Fire Prevention Division

The goal of the Fire Prevention Division is to reduce the potential impact of fire and explosion hazards where people live, work and congregate (other than one- or two-family dwellings) through code enforcement, inspections, plans review, licensing, and public education.

Prevention Highlights

Prevention Highlights is published quarterly to provide facility managers and others with information necessary to operate fire-safe facilities.

Brenda McNorton Chief of Prevention

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Connect with us!



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Edu-Note

by Joel



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As my first year with the Office of the State Fire Marshal draws closer, I have been blessed to be able to gain more and more knowledge and continue to meet more people across our beautiful state. I have been blessed with a great OSFM staff that has put time and effort into me, getting me familiar and comfortable with the fire code in order to help those across the state.

In December, I was in Anaheim, California taking the Certified Fire

Inspector I training class. This five day training class from the NFPA was extremely helpful to further my knowledge of inspections and understanding the codes. I am now conducting a few inspections with some of our inspectors to gain further knowledge and fully complete my training for the CFI I class. This has been a great learning experience as I have been able to see inspections in the field and gain confidence in how to use the fire code effectively.

CMS moving to NFPA 101 LSC 2012 edition is a change that has been keeping our office extremely busy. This has been a transition and learning experience for HealthCare facilities and our office. With that in mind, we have been preparing our staff and I have been giving many presentations lately to any facility that request it. Please feel free to contact me if your facility would like to have 2012 LSC training and I would be happy to come and present for you.

School can be a great place of learning and growing for students and teachers. It can also be a frightening time if a tornado or fire occur while school is in session. With this in mind, the Office of the State Fire Marshal would like to remind schools of the requirements for tornado drills and fire drills. Administrators of all schools, both public and private, except community junior colleges, colleges and universities, must conduct at least three tornado drills during each school year. These drills should be conducted during school hours when the school is in session. The alert tone for the tornado drill



should be distinctly different from the fire alarm.

Fire drills must be held each month during school hours. Facilities should have two different routes to take in the evacuation in case one route is blocked. It is a good idea to practice both routes so teachers and students are

familiar with both. Designate a safe area far enough from the building (50 ft. minimum) to avoid the danger from fire, fire department operations and equipment or from falling debris or explosion. The drill must be unannounced to simulate an actual fire and they must be conducted at different times of the day, during different activities or class changes. We also recommend one fire drill and one tornado drill held during the first two weeks of a school term to familiarize students and staff with procedures and refuge location. For further information regarding fire and tornado drills, please visit our website at firemarshal.ks.gov.





One of my goals when I started with the Office of the State Fire Marshal was to bring a bigger focus and impact on college campuses. We reached out to Student Life Directors on campuses to see how our office could help bring fire prevention awareness. We decided to focus on the RAs during their training week. We went over some great safety tips with the RAs to prepare them for the potential fire

dangers that could happen on campus in hopes that they would then help inform the larger number of students on campus. Last year, we worked with three college campuses across the state; Pittsburg State University, Fort Hays State University and Washburn University. We were welcomed at each campus and were able to provide important and beneficial training. This year, we

would like to reach out to more campuses in hopes of partnering and being a support system during their RA training. Our office can either provide the training for the RAs and staff or we can provide materials for training. If you would like more information on how to have our team come to your campus, please contact me at 785-296-0659 or joel.c.beckner@ks.gov.



Welcome Matt Dekat, Fire Prevention Inspector

We are pleased to welcome Matt Dekat of Wamego to our team as a Fire Prevention Inspector. He brings to his position many years of experience in the construction industry and a degree in Construction Engineering Technology.

Matt will be inspecting facilities in Region 12, which is a Northeast Kansas territory encompassing Shawnee, Washington, Marshall, Nemaha, Jackson and Pottawatomie counties.

For the past 15 years, Matt has acquired a great deal of experience in construction, including developing cost estimates for commercial, civil and residential projects.

Matt, who lives on a farm north of

Wamego, says "Faith, family and friends are what's important to me. He enjoys being active in his church, working on home improvement projects, and spending time hunting, fishing and golfing.

"I am thrilled to be a part of the State Fire Marshal's office," Matt says. "I am embracing the challenge of learning a new trade and moving in a new direction."

Contact: matt.dekat@ks.gov





Adjusting Inspection Schedules

With the increased amount of inspections being returned to OSFM from local jurisdictions, OSFM has made the decision to change the inspection cycle for certain occupancies, listed below. Due to OSFM not being able to obtain additional staffing approval from the legislature, we have no other option than to change the inspection cycle to keep up with the demand. The change in the inspection cycle will result in certain occupancies being put on an 18 month cycle. There are certain occupancies that we will not be changing due to our statutory requirement. The following are the occupancies that will be put on the 18 month cycle:

- Boys and Girls Club
- Assembly – Eating/Drinking Places
- Educational – Licensed Preschools/Head Start Programs (unless associated with a USD)
- Educational – Licensed Day Programs/Head Start Programs
- Educational – Child Care Centers
- Jails – Correctional/Detention Facilities (DOC staying 12 month cycle)
- Home Plus/Residential Boards

and Care Facilities (Large & Small) – JJA

- Room/Board/Lodging House/ Hotels/ Motels/ Dorms < 15 (Dorms for colleges staying 12 month)
- Hotels/Motels/Inns/Lodges/ Dorms > 16 (Dorms for colleges staying 12 month)
- Home Plus/Residential Board and Care Facilities (Large & Small) <= 16 beds
- Foster Care
- Behavioral Health
- LP Cabinets – Public Exchange Cabinet
- LP Propane Bulk Storage Facility
- LP Bottle Fill – Forklift/Grill/ Agriculture/ect.
- LP Motor Vehicle Fill – Public Vehicle Fill (Verify with office)
- LP RV/Camper Bottle Fill – Public RV/Camper Fill
- Bulk Fuel Facilities – Vehicle Fuels (30K)
- Attended/Unattended Cardrol/Service Station/Gas Station/Convenience Store

Local Jurisdiction can opt to stay on an annual cycle if you choose to. Educational facilities and healthcare facilities will remain on their normal 12 month cycle.

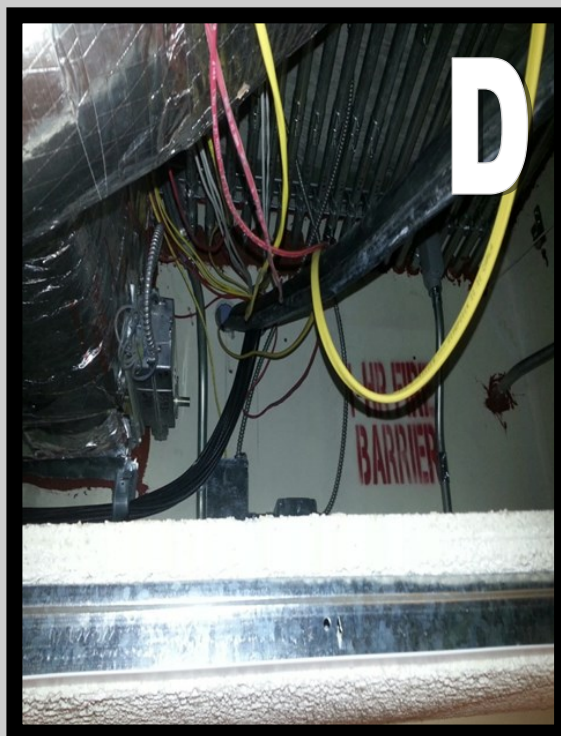
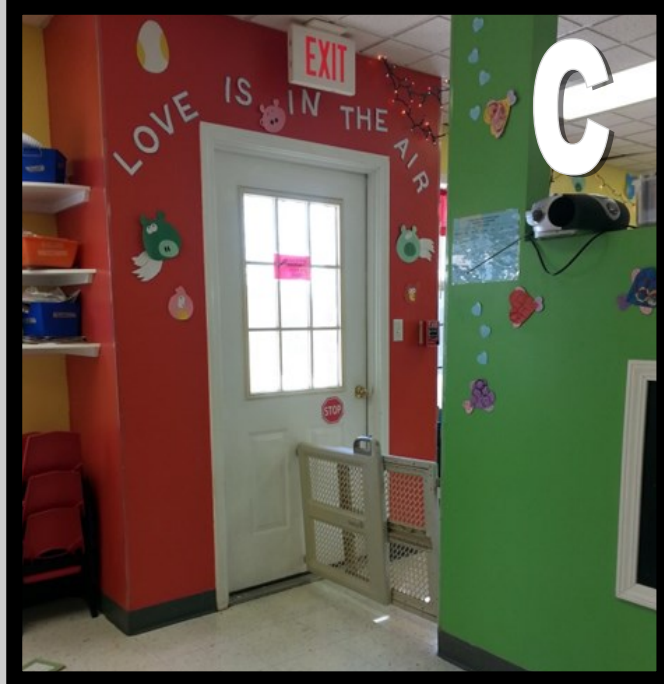
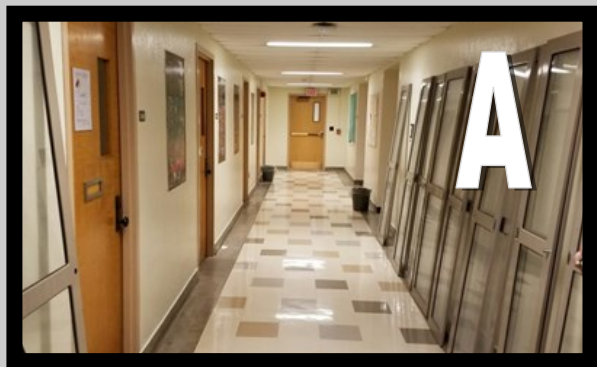
What to expect when You're Inspected

So you know you have a fire safety inspection coming up...what can you do to prepare? Here is a checklist of items to follow:

- ☐ Aisles are clear.
- ☐ Stairways & fire escapes are not used for storage and are easily navigated.
- ☐ Lighted exit signs are well maintained & operational.
- ☐ Exit doors are kept clear.
- ☐ Emergency floodlighting is in serviceable condition.
- ☐ Fire and smoke alarms and fire sprinkler systems are operable and have been tested within the past 12 mos.
- ☐ Extension cords serve only portable appliances.
- ☐ Electrical panels and junctions are closed.
- ☐ Power strips are plugged directly into the wall outlet.
- ☐ An adequate number of operational extinguishers are provided, properly installed and accessible.
- ☐ Extinguishers have been tested within the past year.
- ☐ No unsafe accumulation of rubbish/debris.
- ☐ Address is visible and is the proper size according to distance from the road.



SPOT the violations



A

B

C

D

Answers on Page 12



Variance issued for active shooter situations

State Fire Marshal
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www.firemarshal.ks.gov

Doug Jorgensen, State Fire Marshal

Sam Brownback, Governor

February 7, 2017

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is revising its state-wide variance from certain requirements of the Kansas Fire Prevention Code in preparing for and responding to active shooter and lock down situations in all K-12 and postsecondary educational buildings in Kansas. This variance allows covered institutions to continue the use of additional add on security devices for classroom doors with prior approval by the State Fire Marshal's Office. It now also allows for the use of magnetic strips on door frames that allow for the quick and easy securing of classroom doors in the event of a lockdown situation, but only when the classroom is occupied. At all other times the doors must be allowed to close securely to help prevent the spread of fire. The barricading of classroom doors as recommended in the ALICE training program will still be allowed.

The terms of this variance require schools and school districts to contact their local fire, law enforcement, and first responder community and confidentially share with them the types of devices being used so the responders know what to expect in any type of response.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal encourages any school district that has questions on which devices will be allowed under terms of this variance to contact our office for assistance, before implementing any devices or making any purchases.



Doug Jorgensen
Kansas State Fire Marshal





Keeping our students, faculty and visitors safe in schools is a top priority for all of us. This guide sheet provides an overview of door locking devices permitted and prohibited by fire code, and which are permitted only during intruder situations.

If you come across new devices and have questions, please contact our office at 785-296-3401 or by email at prevention@ks.gov.

You can also find school safety information on our website at FireMarshal.ks.gov.

Prohibited Locking Devices

These types of locks and latches are unacceptable and do not meet fire code.



Locking Door Chain



Barrel Bolt



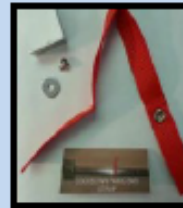
Hasp



Dead Bolt / Thumb Turn



Drop-in Bar



Lockdown Panic Bar Strap

Locks that meet fire code

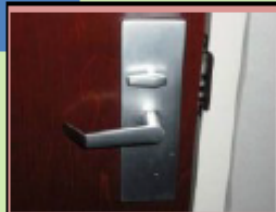
We understand that school districts oftentimes do not have the funding available to spend on expensive hardware. These items shown are examples of acceptable door locks that are available.



Outside knob locked or unlocked by key. Inside knob always unlocked.



Push and turn button device. One motion in order to unlock and open the door.



Single motion locking device. Only requires one motion to unlock and open the door.



Acceptable devices only DURING intruder situations

Devices such as these below may only be used only in an actual active shooter or intruder situation and/or when drills are being performed. These are not to be in place during normal classroom hours and should not be made available to students. Barricading of classroom doors as recommended in ALICE training will be allowed. Keeping in mind that students need the ability to get out in the event of fire. Having a clear and precise intruder plan that is practiced will local law enforcement and fire departments will help ensure the best protection for students and faculty.

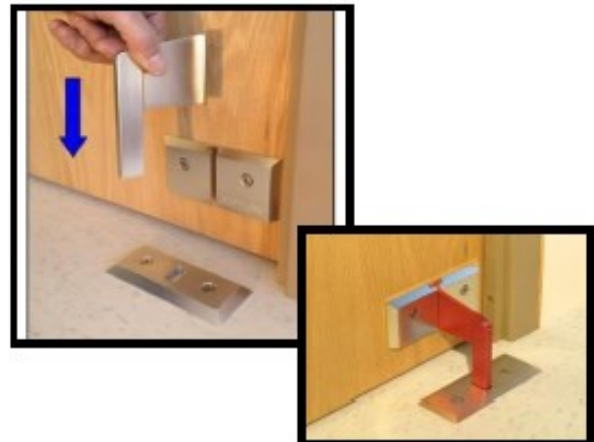
Barracuda Intruder Defense System

for Inward Swinging Doors



Nightlock Lockdown

enables teachers to immediately lock a door from inside the classroom



The Sleeve

fits around the door's closer arm, securing the door from the inside



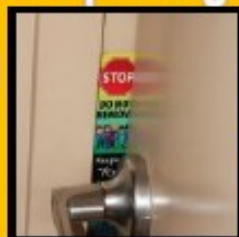
Guardian Angel Door Security Device

works on OPEN IN, OPEN OUT and DOUBLE DOOR applications



NOW APPROVED!

Strip magnets provide anytime protection



Strip magnets allow a teacher to quickly secure their classroom by removing the strip magnet from the frame, allowing the door to latch.



Prevention Highlights

Smoking vs Non-Smoking Facilities



By Joel Beckner, Education Consultant

Smoking facilities vs non-smoking facilities can sometimes cause confusion on how facilities enforce policies. With that in mind, here are some references to clear up the confusion.

NFPA 101 18.7.4/19.7.4 states the following:

Smoking regulations shall be adopted and shall include not less than the following provisions:

- Smoking shall be prohibited in any room, ward, or compartment where flammable liquids, combustible gases, or oxygen is used or stored and in any other hazardous location, and such area shall be posted with signs that read NO SMOKING or shall be posted with the international symbol for smoking.
- In health care occupancies where smoking is prohibited and signs are prominently placed at all major entrances, secondary signs with language that prohibits smoking shall not be required.
- Smoking by patients classified

as not responsible shall be prohibited.

- The requirement of 18.7.4(3) shall not apply where the patient is under direct supervision.
- Ashtrays of noncombustible material and safe design shall be provided in all areas where smoking is permitted.
- Metal containers with self-closing cover devices into which ashtrays can be emptied shall be readily available to all areas where smoking is permitted.

At a minimum, the facility smoking policy must include provisions for the following:

1. Locations of designated smoking areas
2. Smoking is prohibited in any room, compartment, or ward where flammable liquids, combustible gases, or oxygen is used or stored
3. Smoking is prohibited in hazardous areas
4. No-Smoking signs shall be placed at all locations where smoking is prohibited, such as hazardous areas and oxygen

areas

5. Smoking is prohibited for patients classified as not responsible (exception: patient under direct supervision)
6. Only noncombustible ashtrays of a safe design are utilized
7. Metal containers with a self-closing lid are provided for ashtray disposal

If the facility is a non-smoking facility, the requirement for posting non-smoking signs in all hazardous and oxygen areas is not required if the facility has a sign posted at all major entrances stating that the facility is non-smoking.

If the facility wants to place ashtrays at the front door, it does not necessarily mean that the facility is a smoking facility if all they are doing is collecting the butts from visitors who do not comply with the campus rules.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact our office at 785-296-0659 or email me at joel.c.beckner@ks.gov.



Most Cited Healthcare Violations

K511/K147 – Electrical

- Unacceptable use of power strips (Daisy-chained, high-current draw devices, medical equipment)
- Improperly rated power strips in use in rooms with line operated medical equipment
- Patient care-related electrical equipment must be Special-purpose Relocatable Power Taps (SPRPT) listed as UL 1363A or UL 60601-1
- Non- patient-care-related electrical equipment must be Relocatable Power Taps (RPT) listed as UL 1363
- Missing junction box, light switch, or electrical outlet cover plates
- Extension cords being used for more than temporary use

K712/K50 – Fire Drills

- Fire drills must be documented (Time, date, transmission of alarm, etc.)
- Fire drills must be conducted at a frequency of one per shift per quarter
- Fire drills must be conducted under varying conditions (Time during shift – at least one hour difference on the same shift, location, type of fire, etc.)

K363/K18 – Corridor Doors

- Corridor doors can be held open with a device that releases with a push or pull of the door, if the door is not required to be self-closing (such as doors to hazardous areas) or automatically releases upon activation of the fire alarm system if required to be self-closing
- Corridor doors in sprinklered buildings must be smoke resisting (gap between the

face of door and the stop on the frame cannot exceed .5 inches). Corridor doors in non-sprinklered buildings must be 20 minute fire resistance rated or be 1.75 inches solid-bonded wood core and must be smoke resisting (gap between the face of the door and the stop on the frame cannot exceed .25 inches)

- Corridor doors require automatic positive latches/no roller latches
- Double doors need to be smoke resisting (astragal in between doors)

K353/K62 – Sprinkler System Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance

- Sprinklers cannot be painted, corroded/oxidized, loaded, or have other impediments
- The spare sprinkler cabinet must contain at least six sprinklers, with the stock being at least two of each type and temperature rating of sprinkler installed in the building. Also, there must be a special sprinkler wrench for each type of sprinkler
- Sprinkler systems must be maintained quarterly
- Antifreeze loops need to be inspected and tested annually –this information (including the type of antifreeze used and concentration) must be on the forms

K372/K25 – Smoke Barriers

- Continuity of smoke barriers (Outside wall to outside wall or other smoke barrier and from floor to roof/floor deck above)
- Properly fire-stopped penetrations on both sides of the barrier (Existing penetrations must resist the passage of smoke. New penetrations need an approved through penetration system)

- Properly fire-stopped smoke barrier/floor joint systems (flutes of corrugated metal decks cannot be left open or be filled with only insulation or other loose filled material)
- Expandable foam cannot be used (Fire rated expandable foam does not contain a fire resistance rating. It only has a flame spread rating)

K372/K25 – Smoke Barriers

- Smoke barriers must be continuous to the roof deck of a roof/ceiling assembly

K379/K25 – Smoke Barrier Door Glazing

- Data error with conversion to 2012 Life Safety Code (Refer to above information - K372/K25 – Smoke Barriers)

K161/K12 – Building Construction Type and Height

- Maintain ceilings to be fire-rated or smoke resisting depending on the construction type of the structure.
- Class A designation refers to material that may ignite but will not sustain a flame. It is an interior finish designation that describes how a flame will move across the surface. Class A is not a fire-resistance designation.
- Fire-rated assemblies are tested and certified in their entirety. These designs are identified in the UL Fire Resistance Directory. This refers to the period of time the assembly will serve as a barrier to the spread of fire and how long fire resistance the assembly can function structurally after it is exposed to a fire. This describes how fire will move through the surface and is also called the assembly's fire endurance.

Cont'd on next page

Most Cited Healthcare Violations

(Continued)

K321/K29 – Hazardous Areas

- Doors for non-sprinklered hazardous areas must be at least 45 minute fire resistance rated with unpainted labels on each door and frame (Existing HC)
- Hazardous area enclosures may need to be 1 hour fire resistance rated in addition to requiring sprinkler protection (New HC and severe hazard existing HC)
- Doors for all hazardous areas need to fully self-close (All hazardous room doors will be tested on a survey)
- Soiled utility bins need to be stored in a hazardous room when unattended
- Doors can only be held open by a device that releases upon activation of the fire alarm system, local smoke detectors, and/or the sprinkler system

K914/K147- Electrical Systems Maintenance and Testing

- Data error with conversion to 2012 Life Safety Code (Refer to above information - K511/K147 – Electrical)

K291/K46 – Emergency Lighting

- Emergency lighting is required to last a minimum of 90 minutes. Battery pack units must be tested for 30 seconds monthly and 90 minutes annually. The documentation must include an individually itemized device list.
- Emergency lighting must be provided all the way to the public way (an area of safety/a street or similar area open to the outside air and dedicated to public use).

SPOT THE VIOLATION Answers

A. Corridor is full of potential tripping and blocking hazards
 B. Bread cart blocking Life Safety devices
 C. Exit passageway blocked
 D. Penetrations through fire rated barrier



Matt and Katie Kangas have joined our Prevention team working from their home in Inman. The couple recently relocated to Kansas from California where they each spent many years working in the fire service.

Matt, who will be inspecting facilities in his Western Kansas region, hails originally from Southern California where he grew up in Rowland Heights. He graduated with a degree in Fire Science and Technology from Victory Valley College. He worked as a lead Firefighter on the San Bernardino National Forest for Engine 37.

“The highlight of my career was being able to pass the torch and mentor up-and-coming firefighters on and off the line, keeping the tradition going of hard work and humility,” Matt said.

Katie, also a native Californian with a degree in Fire Science and Technology, will travel throughout a number of Central Kansas counties in her new position as a Fire Prevention Inspector. Like Matt, before joining OSFM Katie worked primarily forest fires in the San Bernardino National Forest – though she says they would often travel all over the country aiding other fire departments with their own forest fire battles.

“Fire assignments would last 14 to 21 days away from home, camping on or around the fire-line,” Katie recalls. “Much of that time was without cell service to talk with family.”

After growing up near the town of Hesperia, Katie joined the fire service and met Matt.

“I’ve been involved with fire my entire life, met my husband in fire, and we’ve both had the blessing of working in fire together since we met.”

When not working, the couple enjoys spending time with their 13 year old daughter, Samantha, and their hobbies include outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and shooting. The pair has also taught youth in their church.

“We are excited about joining the Office of the State Fire Marshal in Kansas, which gives us the ability to maintain our careers within the Fire community while having much more time together as a family,” Katie says. “We are also looking forward to learning something new and living in Kansas!”